GOLD KEY

ZORRO

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NOVEMBER

WALT DISNEY PRESENTS

ZORRO

Plundering Impostors threaten Zorro's reputation — until he gets help from a young boy!

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THE MASQUERADERS OF LOS GATOS CANYON

When Zorro hears that a band of robbers is masquerading in costumes exactly like his own...

He realizes that he must bring them to justice in order to restore the people's trust in the name ZORRO.

A victim of one of the false Zorros recognizes the robber in street clothes and tells his story to Don Diego, who follows the villain to his hide-out...

Only to return later, as the real Zorro, to capture the impostors.

WALT DISNEY'S

ZORRO

Masqueraders of Los Gatos Canyon

ONE DAY, ON THE STAGE ROAD TO LOS ANGELES, A STRANGE SIGHT IS SEEN... NOT ONE, BUT FOUR ZORROS SWOOP DOWN UPON A COACH...

PULL UP, AMIGO...OR WE WILL BE FORCED TO SHOOT YOU!

BLAM!

EVERYONE OUT! LINE UP AGAINST THE COACH!

THIS IS AN OUTRAGE!

DO NOT BE AFRAID, SEÑOR! WE WANT ONLY YOUR VALUABLES!

I WILL SEE YOU IN PRISON FOR THIS!

AHH, THIS LOOKS TO BE A FINE PIECE OF GOLD...

LEAVE THAT ALONE!

THE BOY KICKS OUT AT THE BANDIT...

GIVE IT BACK TO ME!

WHACK

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ANOTHER FINE GRUNDY HACSA SCAN

STOP, YOU LITTLE DEVIL!

WHACK! THUD!

THE BOY GRABS AT THE LOCKET FURIOUSLY...

YOU CAN'T HAVE THAT! IT'S MINE!

IN THE STRUGGLE, THE BANDIT'S GLOVE COMES OFF...

YOU ARE LUCKY HE IS ONLY A BOY, SEÑOR! I DO NOT KILL *CHILDREN!*

THE CAUSE OF JUSTICE COSTS MONEY, MY FRIENDS! WE WHO RIDE FOR ZORRO NEED FUNDS TO CARRY ON OUR FIGHT!

ZORRO IS NOT AN OUTLAW!

WE ROB ONLY IN THE INTERESTS OF JUSTICE, MUCHACHO! *ADIOS!*

AT THAT MOMENT, A LANCER RIDES TO THE TOP OF A NEARBY HILL OVERLOOKING THE STAGE ROAD...

THAT LOOKS LIKE ZORRO DOWN THERE!

IT IS ZORRO! HE HAS ROBBED THE STAGE!

I MUST TELL SERGEANT GARCIA!

AND MOMENTS LATER, DOWNSTREAM...

SERGEANT GARCIA! MOUNT QUICKLY! I HAVE SEEN ZORRO!

LEAD THE WAY! THIS TIME, SEÑOR ZORRO WILL NOT ESCAPE GARCIA!

HIYAAAH!

AT THE STAGE, THE COUNTERFEIT ZORROS RIDE OFF, WITH THE LEADER BRINGING UP THE REAR...

ADIOS, AMIGOS!

SERGEANT GARCIA AND THE LANCERS RIDE HARD IN PURSUIT OF ONE OF THE ZORROS, NOT REALIZING THERE ARE THREE MORE ...

FASTER, LANCERS! THIS CAN BE OUR MOMENT OF GLORY!

BLAM

BLAM

SPLIT UP! WE WILL CONFUSE THEM!

SI, RAUL! WE WILL LEAD THEM A MERRY CHASE!

SPREAD OUT! WE WILL SURROUND HIM!

BLAM!

BLAM!

ZING!

THE SERGEANT SWINGS HIS REATA ...

WHISH

OHHH!

GREAT HEAVENS! I HIT HIM! HOW DID THAT HAPPEN?

HE THROWS IT AND ...

AHA! AT LAST I HAVE YOU, ZORRO!

AT THAT SAME MOMENT, IN THE WOODS, ONE OF GARCIA'S LANCERS ATTACKS ANOTHER ZORRO ...

NOW I HAVE YOU!

OOOOFF!

I HAVE HIM! I HAVE ZORRO! SOMEONE HELP ME!

I HAVE ZORRO! HELP!

NO, BABOSO! YOU ARE DREAMING! I, SERGEANT GARCIA, HAVE ZORRO! HELP ME AT ONCE!

HELP ME HOLD ZORRO! **INMEDIATAMENTE** I COMMAND YOU!

AI! THE POOR SERGEANT HAS FINALLY SNAPPED HIS SOMBRERO! I MUST SHOW HIM THAT **I** HAVE ZORRO!

A MOMENT LATER...

ZZZZZZ

WHA--? I MUST BE SEEING THINGS!

THE LANCER AND SERGEANT GARCIA ARE BOTH SO SURPRISED THAT THEY LET GO OF THEIR CAPTIVES...

I...AM DREAMING! IT CANNOT BE!

MAYBE IT IS **I** WHO HAS SNAPPED HIS SOMBRERO!

AI! IT IS MAGIC! THERE CANNOT BE TWO ZORROS!

SÍ, THAT IS TRUE! BUT, NO MATTER— THEY ARE **BOTH** GETTING AWAY!

OBVIOUSLY WE HAVE BEEN WORKING TOO HARD, AMIGO! WE MUST RETURN TO THE PUEBLO AND REST!

SÍ, SERGEANT! YOU ARE RIGHT!

AND I SAY I SAW ZORRO, BABOSO!

YOU ARE MISTAKEN! I SAW HIM!

WHAT IS THIS? YOU SAW ZORRO? BUT YOU COULDN'T HAVE! I HAD HIM··· OR, THAT IS... *PEPE* HAD HIM···THAT IS--

WHAT THE SERGEANT IS TRYING TO SAY IS THAT WE··· WELL, THAT IS, I···OR *HE*···OH, FORGET IT!

I SAW ONE...YOU SAW ONE...YOU SAW ONE...AND *YOU* SAW ONE! THAT MAKES... **FOUR**! AI! WE **ALL** NEED A REST!

SERGEANT··· BESIDES YOUR WISDOM, YOU CAN ALSO COUNT! I KNOW NOW WHY I AM JUST A LOWLY PRIVATE IN THE KING'S SERVICE!

AT THAT MOMENT, ON A RISE NEARBY···

HA! HA! THE LANCERS ARE COMPLETELY FOOLED! THEY DO NOT KNOW NOW WHICH WAY TO TURN!

SÍ, THAT IS TRUE, RAUL··· BUT THERE IS ONE THING THAT BOTHERS ME...

WHAT IS THAT, RAFAEL?

IT IS WHAT THE **REAL** ZORRO IS GOING TO DO WHEN HE FINDS OUT WHAT WE ARE UP TO!

WHAT CAN HE DO, MY FRIEND? WE ARE ROBBING IN HIS NAME!

SÍ...AND I THINK THAT HE WILL NOT LIKE THAT!

LATER, AT THE PUEBLO DE LOS ANGELES...

AHH, DON DIEGO...YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE! ZORROS BEHIND ME...ZORROS IN FRONT OF ME...IT WAS TERRIBLE!

DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE THAT ZORRO WAS BEHIND THIS, SERGEANT GARCIA?

OF COURSE! WHO ELSE WOULD BE SO CUNNING AS TO CONFUSE ME WITH **FOUR** OF HIM? NOW I HAVE ***FOUR*** TIMES AS MUCH TROUBLE!

YOU ARE WRONG ABOUT THOSE MEN, SERGEANT! I KNOW THAT ZORRO WOULD NOT ROB PEOPLE!

QUIET, CHICO! YOU ARE ONLY A BOY!

MY SON DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT ZORRO WOULD TURN OUTLAW!

TURN OUTLAW? THAT FELLOW HAS **ALWAYS** BEEN AN OUTLAW! AND ONE DAY I WILL CATCH HIM FOR GOOD!

I DON'T CARE WHAT ANYONE SAYS, ZORRO IS A GOOD MAN!

THERE IS A BOY AFTER MY OWN HEART...

THROUGHOUT THE NEXT TWO WEEKS, THE ZORRO IMPOSTORS STRIKE MANY TIMES...

BLAM! BLAM!

THE REAL ZORRO'S ATTEMPTS TO TRACK THE ELUSIVE BANDITS MEET WITH FAILURE...

I'VE LOST THE TRAIL AGAIN! THERE'S NO USE FOLLOWING ANY FARTHER TONIGHT!

AND LATER...

I'VE GOT TO FIND A WAY TO STOP THOSE MEN, BERNARDO! THE GOOD PEOPLE OF CALIFORNIA WHO TRUST ZORRO ARE BEGINNING TO DOUBT HIS MOTIVES!

THE FOLLOWING DAY, IN THE PUEBLO...

WAIT FOR ME HERE, CHICO! I HAVE SOME BUSINESS AT THE INN, BUT I SHALL BE RIGHT BACK!

SÍ, FATHER!

THAT RING...

THE BOY MOVES FOR A CLOSER LOOK...

IT IS THE SAME RING! I HAVE FOUND ONE OF THE OUTLAWS!

I MUST TELL THE SERGEANT!

BUT AS HE ROUNDS A CORNER...

OOOPS!

WHAT'S THE HURRY, BOY?

THUD!

CHICO EXPLAINS THE REASON FOR HIS EXCITEMENT...

...AND I'VE GOT TO TELL THE SERGEANT! PERHAPS NOW I CAN PROVE THAT THE REAL ZORRO IS NOT A ROBBER!

WAIT! I HAVE A BETTER IDEA!

SERGEANT GARCIA IS NOT TOO SYMPATHETIC WITH ZORRO'S CAUSE... PERHAPS IT IS BEST IF WE FIND ALL THE BANDITS BEFORE TELLING HIM!

BUT HOW CAN WE DO THAT?

YOU POINT OUT THIS MAN TO ME! I WILL FOLLOW HIM, AND MAYBE HE WILL LEAD ME TO THE OTHERS!

BUT--

SHHH! THIS MUST BE OUR SECRET! AND PERHAPS, IF ALL WORKS OUT, I CAN ARRANGE FOR YOU TO MEET THE **REAL** ZORRO!

YOU **KNOW** HIM?

I HAVE A FRIEND WHO CAN CONTACT HIM! I AM SURE I CAN TRUST YOU NEVER TO TELL ANYONE OF THIS!

SÍ! MY LIPS ARE SEALED FOR ZORRO!

MOMENTS LATER...

THERE...THAT MAN WALKING TOWARD HIS HORSE!

GOOD!

NOW, REMEMBER...NOT A WORD OF THIS TO ANYONE! I WILL SEE YOU WHEN I RETURN!

BE CAREFUL, SEÑOR...

STAYING FAR BEHIND THE SUSPECTED BANDIT, DIEGO FOLLOWS HIM OUT OF TOWN...

HE IS RIDING TOWARD LOS GATOS CANYON...

AND SOON...

I HAVE DISCOVERED THEIR HIDE-OUT! FROM HERE ON, THIS IS A JOB FOR **ZORRO**!

THAT EVENING ...

I WANT YOU TO DELIVER THE MESSAGE I WROTE TO SERGEANT GARCIA! IT WILL TELL HIM TO BRING HIS LANCERS TO LOS GATOS CANYON IN ONE HOUR!

THE NOTE EXPLAINS THAT I CHOSE YOU ONLY BECAUSE YOU HAPPENED TO BE NEARBY AT THE TIME! HE WILL NOT SUSPECT YOU OF ANYTHING!

LATER, IN GARCIA'S OFFICE ...

ZORRO GAVE YOU THIS? AH, WHAT I WOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN TO BE IN YOUR BOOTS WHEN HE HANDED THIS OVER! HE WOULD NEVER HAVE GOTTEN AWAY FROM **ME**!

I WILL CALL MY LANCERS! WHATEVER HIS REASON FOR SENDING FOR ME, ZORRO WILL NOT ESCAPE!

IN THE CANYON WHERE ZORRO WAITS ...

GARCIA IS COMING! NOW TO START THINGS MOVING!

ZORRO RIDES CLOSE TO THE OUTLAW HIDE-OUT ...

AMIGO! AMIGO ZORRO!

TWO OF THE PUZZLED BANDITS RESPOND TO THE STRANGE VOICE...

WHO IS CALLING US?

WHERE ARE--

CRACK!

WHAP!

SOCK!

RAUL! IT IS THE REAL ZORRO!

AND THIS, TOO, IS REAL, SEÑOR!

WHAM!

YOU RIDE UNDER MY NAME, SEÑOR...LET US SEE IF YOU USE A SWORD LIKE ZORRO!

CLANG

WHAP!

GO TO SLEEP, SEÑOR BANDIT!

CLUNK

THUD

ZORRO SOON OVERPOWERS THE REMAINING BANDITS...

NOW TO DELIVER YOU TO SERGEANT GARCIA!

FOUR BANDITS, SERGEANT GARCIA... MY COMPLIMENTS!

ZORRO!

I AM OBLIGED TO YOU, SEÑOR ZORRO...BUT I AM ALSO AFRAID YOU **TOO** MUST GO WITH US! I AM NOT FOOLISH ENOUGH TO LET THE **REAL** ZORRO GO FREE!

I WILL BE HAPPY TO GO WITH YOU, GARCIA...BUT FIRST I MUST CATCH THE OTHER ZORRO!

ANOTHER ONE? YOU MEAN THERE ARE ***FIVE***?

SÍ...I WILL GET HIM! WAIT RIGHT HERE!

BUT, HOURS LATER...

HE IS NOT COMING BACK! I AM AFRAID IT WAS JUST A TRICK! AND TO THINK I HAD ZORRO IN MY HANDS!

DO NOT BE SAD, SERGEANT! YOU WILL BE A GREAT HERO FOR CAPTURING ***THESE*** FOUR MEN!

LATER, AT THE PUEBLO, CHICO GETS HIS SECRET WISH...

I AM GLAD DON DIEGO'S FRIEND SENT YOU, SEÑOR ZORRO...I WILL NEVER FORGET THIS DAY!

YOU ARE A GOOD FRIEND, CHICO! I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER HOW YOU HELPED ME! AND REMEMBER, ALWAYS KEEP OUR SECRET!

The Bandidos

IN A QUIET VILLAGE IN OLD CALIFORNIA...

GRANDPA, I HAVE BEEN TELLING MY FRIENDS ABOUT THE TRICK YOU TAUGHT YOUR GOAT TO DO! PLEASE SHOW THEM HOW SMART HE IS!

ISN'T IT HARD TO TEACH A GOAT A TRICK, SEÑOR?

NOT SO HARD, MY LITTLE ONE! YOU CAN TRAIN ANY ANIMAL TO RESPOND TO A HAND SIGNAL IF YOU ARE PATIENT ENOUGH!

SNAP SNAP

SEE, AMIGOS, GRANDPA IS MAKING THE SIGNAL WHICH TELLS THE GOAT WHAT TO DO!

RATTLE RATTLE RATTLE

YOU SEE! SEÑOR GOAT KNOWS IF HE PICKS UP THE GOURD AND RATTLES IT, HE WILL RECEIVE A REWARD OF FOOD!

I HAVE BEEN TEACHING MY BURROS A TRICK, TOO! COME, I WILL SHOW IT TO YOU, MUCHACHOS!

CHOMP CHOMP

BUT AT THAT MOMENT...

LOPEZ!

MANUEL!

PABLO!

WE WILL HAVE TO COME BACK LATER, GRANDPA! OUR MOTHERS ARE CALLING US... IT IS TIME TO EAT NOW!

BUT LATER THAT AFTERNOON...

BAM BAM BAM

BANDIDOS! RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!

ROUND THEM ALL UP HERE IN THE STREET, MEN, AND WE'LL HAVE SOME FUN!

THE OUTLAWS MAKE QUICK WORK OF CAPTURING THE VILLAGERS, FOR THERE ARE FEW USEFUL WEAPONS IN THE LITTLE TOWN...

CRACK

LOOK! SEE WHAT I'VE FOUND!

GOOD! THEY'LL MAKE USEFUL PACK ANIMALS FOR US!

PRESENTLY...

PLEASE DO NOT HARM US! TAKE WHAT YOU WANT AND LEAVE US IN PEACE!

WE'LL LEAVE SOON ENOUGH, OLD ONE!

BUT FIRST YOUR PEOPLE ARE GOING TO FEED MY MEN AND THEN YOUR BEAUTIFUL SEÑORITAS WILL DANCE AND SING FOR US!

YIPPEEE!

BAM

WE WILL FEED YOU, SEÑORES, BUT WE WILL NOT LET OUR SEÑORITAS DANCE FOR YOU! WE WILL FIGHT TO THE FINISH!

GOOD! THERE'S NOTHING WE LIKE BETTER THAN A GOOD FIGHT!

IT WILL BE A VERY UNEVEN FIGHT WITH THE BANDIDOS HOLDING ALL THE WEAPONS, GRANDPA!

THERE IS ONE THING LEFT TO DO, MY GRANDSON... DO NOT FRET!

SEÑOR BANDIDOS, WE WILL DO AS YOU SAY, WITHOUT ARGUEMENT!

HA-HA! YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH CHOICE, OLD MAN!

AND AT THAT MOMENT, THE CAPTURED BURROS SUDDENLY REAR UP ON THEIR HIND LEGS, SENDING THE BANDITS' HORSES INTO A PANIC...

WHINNWEEEEEEE

NOW, MEN OF MY VILLAGE, LEAP ON YOUR CAPTORS!

THE VILLAGERS QUICKLY TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE UNEXPECTED TURN OF EVENTS...

BAM

WHACK

ULP!

THEIR WEAPONS CAPTURED, THE BANDITS ARE SOON OVERCOME BY THE BATTLING VILLAGERS.

GRANDPA! I DO NOT UNDERSTAND! YOU TOLD THE BANDIDO WE WOULD DO AS HE SAID WITHOUT ARGUMENT!

SÍ, THAT IS WHAT I SAID, BUT IT WAS ONLY AN EXCUSE TO STEP NEARER TO MY BURROS!

WHEN I TOLD YOU THERE WAS ONE MORE THING LEFT TO DO, I HAD IN MIND CAUSING A DISTURBANCE SO OUR PEOPLE COULD CAPTURE THE BANDIDOS!

WHEN I BOW, SWEEPING MY SOMBRERO LIKE THIS, IT IS A ***SIGNAL*** FOR MY BURROS TO STAND ON THEIR HIND LEGS! THIS IS THE TRICK I HAVE TAUGHT THEM... THE ONE I WAS GOING TO SHOW YOU THIS AFTERNOON!

Sailor's Brand

They called him the *Yanqui Marinero* the Yankee Sailor. Silas Markam had come to Monterey on a whaling ship and so loved the place, he stayed.

His weatherbeaten face leering above the huge, bright anchor tattooed on his chest gave him a frightful appearance. Yet the children loved him, and soon all Monterey took him to their hearts.

Now, after many years, Silas Markam was a poor but respected member of the community. He spent long hours each day sitting in the plaza spinning yarns about his adventures at sea.

But Silas had other work to do. He was trying to establish a cattle ranch on the Salinas River. And everyone wished him well.

Everyone, that is, except the Mora brothers. These unscrupulous rascals thought they saw in Silas an easy prey.

"Look at him," they told each other. "All his free time he spends with *los ninos*, the children. He doesn't know the first thing about ranching."

"He is even too simple and childlike to brand his cattle," one of the brothers said.

"There would be no way for him to prove his ownership if someone should run those cattle off," the other agreed.

One day in late spring, Silas, as usual, was sitting in the town square, spinning yarns with the children, when his *mayordomo* approached him at a run.

"Patron, Patron!" the foreman cried. "Our precious cattle! The Mora brothers have run them off!"

"Do not get so excited," said the old sailor, a twinkle in his eye. "If what you say is true, then let me summon the *Comandante* from the *presidio* and we will get our cattle back."

Monterey was a small town, and news travelled fast. Soon everyone knew that the beloved Yankee Sailor had been robbed.

"But how will he establish his claim to the cattle?" everyone asked one another. "It is common knowledge that his cattle carry no brand."

Later, at the Mora place, Silas and the *Comandante* confronted the unscrupulous brothers.

"That is one of mine," the sailor said, pointing. "And that one, and that one, too."

Soon, with his keen sailor's eye ferreting out the fresh brands, Silas had picked out forty-seven cattle that he claimed to be his own, the exact number that had been stolen.

"But how can you prove these accusations?" the Mora brothers asked. "You can see for yourselves these cattle carry our brand."

"Ay," said the *Comandante*. "But the brands are only a day or two old, judging by the hair."

"I can prove it, Comandante," old Silas said, and stepped up to a steer.

Then, with gnarled old fingers that were gentle as a child's, he rolled back the underlip of each animal in question. There, for all to see, tiny but distinct, was a little blue anchor tattoo.

The children recognized it immediately, and so did the Comandante, as the sailor's own brand. For the tiny tattoo on each animal's lip was an exact replica of the anchor tattooed on the *Yanqui Marinero's* chest.

WALT DISNEY'S ZORRO

THE WELCOMED INTRUDER

READY... AIM...

DAWN, AT THE PUEBLO DE LOS ANGELES, WHERE AN EXECUTION IS ABOUT TO TAKE PLACE BEHIND THE WALLS OF THE CUARTEL...

BUT BEFORE THE CAPITAN CAN GIVE HIS FATEFUL COMMAND...

ZORRO!

THE WHIP OF ZORRO UNCOILS...

AND SNAPS OUT…

SHOOT HIM! SHOOT HIM!

BAM!

WHISH

YIIIII!

I'LL GET YOU… OOOOPS!

WATCH YOUR STEP, CAPITAN!

OVER THE WALL, ENRIQUE! A HORSE IS WAITING!

ZORRO FIGHTS VALIANTLY AS THE CONDEMNED MAN SPRINTS FOR THE WALL…

GET HIM! HE MUST NOT ESCAPE!

CLANG

OOOOF!

STOP THEM OR I'LL HAVE YOUR HIDES!

HURRY, MY FRIEND!

HO, TORNADO! WE MUST PUT OURSELVES OUT OF RANGE WITH GREAT HASTE!

BLAM!

ADIOS, AMIGOS!

CRACK!

MOMENTS LATER...

AFTER THEM! ONE THOUSAND PESOS TO THE MAN WHO BRINGS DOWN ZORRO!

RIDE HARD, ENRIQUE! THE CAPITAN AND SERGEANT GARCIA SEEM ESPECIALLY ANGRY THIS MORNING!

SÍ!

ZING

FASTER, BABOSOS!

BAM!

QUICKLY... IN HERE!

SECONDS LATER...

ONE THING I CAN COUNT ON IS THE CAPITAN'S DIRECTNESS OF PURPOSE. HE LOOKS NEITHER TO THE RIGHT NOR LEFT!

FOLLOW ME, ENRIQUE! I HAVE A HIDING SPOT FOR YOU!

SI, SEÑOR!

TWO HOURS LATER...

HERE IS YOUR TEMPORARY HOME, MY FRIEND!

INSIDE THE CAVE...

I HAD A FRIEND STOCK IT WITH SUPPLIES ENOUGH TO LAST A WEEK!

ALL THE COMFORTS OF HOME, EH?

I THANK YOU FOR SAVING MY LIFE, SEÑOR...BUT... HOW DID YOU SO QUICKLY LEARN OF MY PREDICAMENT? IT WAS ONLY LAST NIGHT THAT I WAS CAPTURED!

NEWS LIKE THAT TRAVELS FAST, ENRIQUE! YOU HAVE MANY FRIENDS!

IF I HAVE FRIENDS, IT IS BECAUSE I FIGHT AGAINST TYRANNY, AS YOU DO YOURSELF!

AND CALIFORNIA NEEDS MORE LIKE YOU, ENRIQUE... THAT IS WHY WE MUST SEE TO IT THAT YOU LIVE TO CONTINUE THE FIGHT!

I AGREE COMPLETELY, SEÑOR...BUT I FEAR IT WILL NOT BE EASY TO ESCAPE DETECTION FOR LONG! THE CAPITAN WILL HAVE MANY LANCERS SEARCHING FOR ME!

I KNOW... BUT I HAVE A PLAN THAT JUST MIGHT WORK!

WAIT HERE UNTIL I GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU...AND STAY OUT OF SIGHT!

SÍ, SEÑOR! I HAVE NO DESIRE TO AGAIN DON THE BLINDFOLD!

ADIOS, AMIGO!

ADIOS!

AI! IF I COULD BUT DISAPPEAR AS IF BY MAGIC AS ZORRO DOES, MY TROUBLES WOULD BE OVER!

LATER, ZORRO ENTERS THE SECRET PASSAGEWAY WHICH LEADS TO THE LIVING QUARTERS OF DON DIEGO DE LA VEGA...

AH, BERNARDO...ZORRO'S WORK IS DONE FOR THE MOMENT...BUT MUCH REMAINS!

ENRIQUE VELARDE IS AT THE CAVE WHERE YOU TOOK THE SUPPLIES...BUT WE MUST FIND A WAY TO GET HIM SAFELY AWAY FROM LOS ANGELES!

THAT, I FEAR, WILL BE NO EASY TASK... EVEN FOR OUR FRIEND, ZORRO!

IN THE LIVING ROOM OF THE DE LA VEGA HACIENDA...

AH, DIEGO... I SEE YOU FINALLY GOT BACK...I WAS BEGINNING TO WORRY ABOUT YOU!

I NEVER MISS A MEAL, FATHER!

...BERNARDO, WILL YOU BRING ME SOMETHING? I'M FAMISHED!

LATER...

AH, THANK YOU, BERNARDO! YOU ARE THE BEST COOK IN CALIFORNIA! BUT NOW, THERE IS WORK TO DO...FOR BOTH OF US!

I WILL EXPLAIN YOUR PART OF MY PLAN AS WE RIDE TO THE CUARTEL TO HAVE A TALK WITH OUR FRIEND, SERGEANT GARCIA...

AI..! IT SEEMS THE PORTLY SERGEANT IS IN FOR IT AGAIN!

AT THE CUARTEL...

WHAT? YOU SAY YOU HAVE INFORMATION ABOUT THE ESCAPED PRISONER?

THAT IS TRUE, SERGEANT! BERNARDO CAME TO ME WITH THE NEWS. JUST AN HOUR AGO... AND, OF COURSE, I FELT IT MY DUTY TO TELL YOU!

BUT...HOW DOES YOUR SERVANT TELL YOU ANYTHING? IS HE NOT DEAF AND DUMB?

YES, BUT HE TALKS TO ME WITH *SIGNS*... SHOW HIM, BERNARDO!

BERNARDO'S FINGERS FLY AS HE SPEAKS IN SIGN LANGUAGE...

WHAT IS HE SAYING?

HE SAYS, *'UNDOUBTEDLY THE PEOPLE OF LOS ANGELES ARE LUCKY TO HAVE SUCH A MAN AS SERGEANT GARCIA PROTECTING THEM!'*

THE LITTLE ONE IS CERTAINLY A GOOD JUDGE OF CHARACTER, NO?

INDEED, SERGEANT. HE RARELY MAKES A MISTAKE! AND THAT BRINGS US BACK TO THE BUSINESS AT HAND!

BERNARDO INFORMS ME THAT HE SAW ZORRO AND VELARDE GIVE YOU THE SLIP THIS MORNING...AND THAT HE FOLLOWED THEM TO WHERE VELARDE IS NOW HIDING!

AH, THIS IS A STROKE OF GOOD FORTUNE! I WILL REPORT TO THE CAPITAN IMMEDIATELY!

IF WE CAPTURE THIS VELARDE, I WILL PROBABLY BE GIVEN A PROMOTION!

NO DOUBT OF IT, SERGEANT!

I WILL GET THE LITTLE ONE A HORSE AND WE WILL BE OFF!

PSSST, BERNARDO! BE SURE AND DO EXACTLY AS I TOLD YOU!

YOU ARE A GOOD CITIZEN, DON DIEGO! I THANK YOU FOR REPORTING TO THE PROPER AUTHORITIES!

A PLEASURE, CAPITAN! I ONLY WISH I COULD TAKE A MORE ACTIVE PART MYSELF!

HAVE NO FEAR, DON DIEGO! THE NEXT TIME YOU SEE ME, MAYBE YOU CAN CALL ME 'CAPITAN'!

WITH BERNARDO IN THE LEAD, THE CAPITAN, GARCIA, AND THE LANCERS THUNDER OUT OF THE CUARTEL...

OR, ON THE OTHER HAND, I MIGHT BE CALLING HIM "PRIVATE GARCIA"!

AN HOUR LATER, THE BLACK-CAPED FIGURE OF ZORRO FLASHES ACROSS THE COUNTRYSIDE ...

COME, COME! IT IS TOO HOT TO BE PLAYING GAMES! WHERE IS THIS CAVE OF WHICH YOU SPEAK?

HO, SERGEANT! DO YOU EXPECT ANSWERS FROM THE MUTE?

NO, BABOSO! IT IS ONLY THAT--

AI! HE IS POINTING!

NOW HE KNOWS WHERE IT IS! ONWARD, LANCERS!

SÍ, MY SERGEANT... ONWARD FOR A WHILE LONGER... THEN I WILL LEAD YOU TO THE CAVE!

AT THE CAVE...

AH, MY FRIEND... YOU RETURN! HAVE YOU A PLAN FOR MY ESCAPE?

HERE ARE SOME CLOTHES! GET INTO THEM QUICKLY!

MINUTES LATER...

A GOOD FIT, SEÑOR. YOU THINK OF EVERYTHING... BUT I FAIL TO SEE HOW THIS COSTUME WILL GET ME THROUGH THE NET THAT IS SPREAD FOR ME!

HAVE TRUST, MY FRIEND!

NOW, DO AS I SAY...RIDE EASILY...AS IF YOU ARE A MAN IN NO HURRY! SEND ME WORD WHEN YOU REACH SANTA BARBARA!

SÍ, AMIGO... I CERTAINLY HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING!

ON YOUR WAY, TORNADO! BACK HOME! QUICKLY!

WHEE-AUUGH!

AS TORNADO RACES OUT, ZORRO MOVES BACK INSIDE THE CAVE...

AND SHORTLY...

HALT! SO THIS IS WHERE HE HIDES! DISMOUNT AND MOVE IN AT MY COMMAND!

SÍ, CAPITAN!

THE LANCERS, LED BY THE CAPITAN AND GARCIA, MOVE IN WARILY TOWARD THE CAVE ..AND ONLY BERNARDO KNOWS WHAT THEY WILL FIND···

APPROACH WITH CAUTION! THIS MAN IS MOST DANGEROUS!

SÍ! BE ALERT!

BUT A MOMENT LATER···

OOOOHH... MY HEAD...

WHA--?

IT IS DON DIEGO!

I...AM SO ASHAMED···I WAS TRYING TO BE A HERO SO MY FATHER WOULD BE PROUD OF ME! I...VELARDE HIT ME ON THE HEAD... STOLE MY CLOTHES AND A PRIZE PALOMINO AND FLED!

FOOL! YOU SHOULD LEAVE THE ACTION TO THE MILITARY!

I AM SORRY, CAPITAN! I SHOULD LEARN MY PLACE!

EXACTLY! STICK TO YOUR GUITAR PLAYING AND POETRY AND YOU'LL BE MUCH BETTER OFF!

AND AS THE PURSUERS TAKE UP THE CHASE, DIEGO MOVES TOWARD BERNARDO...

FETCH THAT BUNDLE OF CLOTHES INSIDE, BERNARDO! OUR FRIEND ZORRO MIGHT BE NEEDING THEM AGAIN!

THE CAPITAN RIDES HIS [illegible] HARD, AND THEN...

THERE HE IS, CAPITAN!

BABOSO! HAVE YOU NO BRAINS IN YOUR HEAD?

...VELARDE IS RIDING A PALOMINO...AND WEARING DON DIEGO'S FINE CLOTHES! THIS MAN IS BUT A *PEON!*

SÍ, CAPITAN!

IF I DID NOT KNOW BETTER, I WOULD THINK THAT SEÑOR ZORRO HAD CAST A SPELL OVER THOSE MEN! AH, WELL...

HO, BOY! WE'RE OFF TO SANTA BARBARA TO ONCE AGAIN FIGHT FOR ZORRO'S CAUSE!

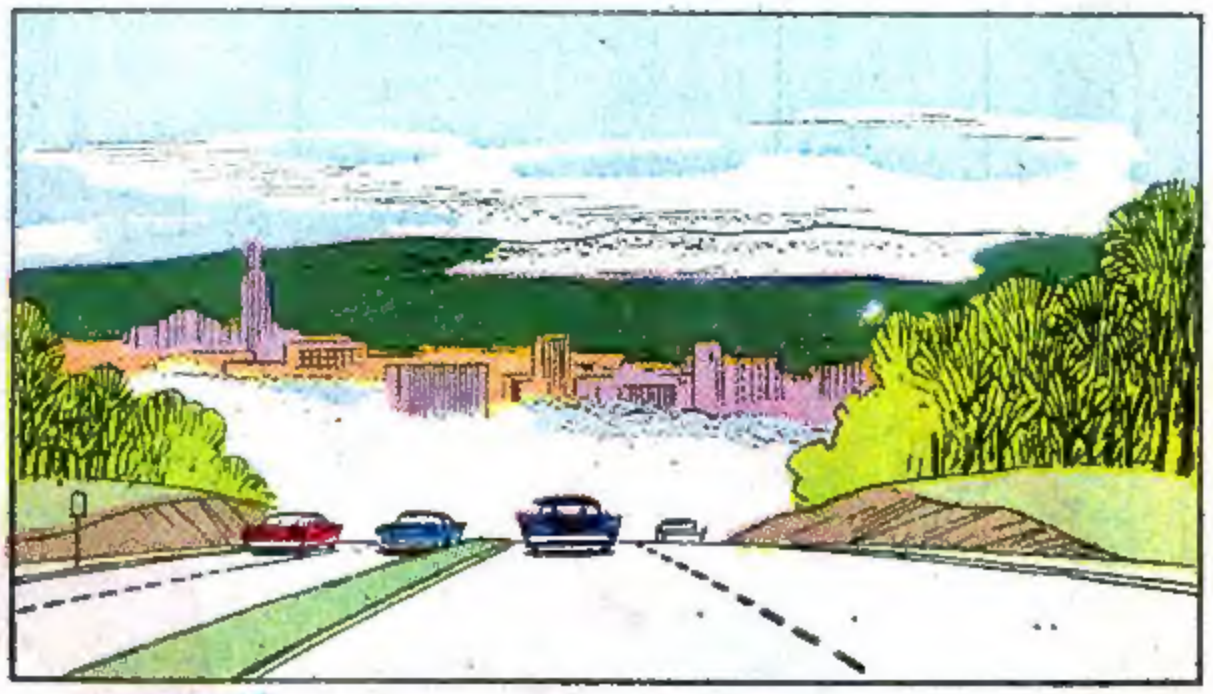
THAT EVENING, AT THE DE LA VEGA HACIENDA...

...AND WE SCOURED THE COUNTRY, BUT FOUND NOT A TRACE OF THE MAN! THAT PALOMINO HE STOLE FROM YOU MUST HAVE BEEN A VERY FAST, VALUABLE ANIMAL!

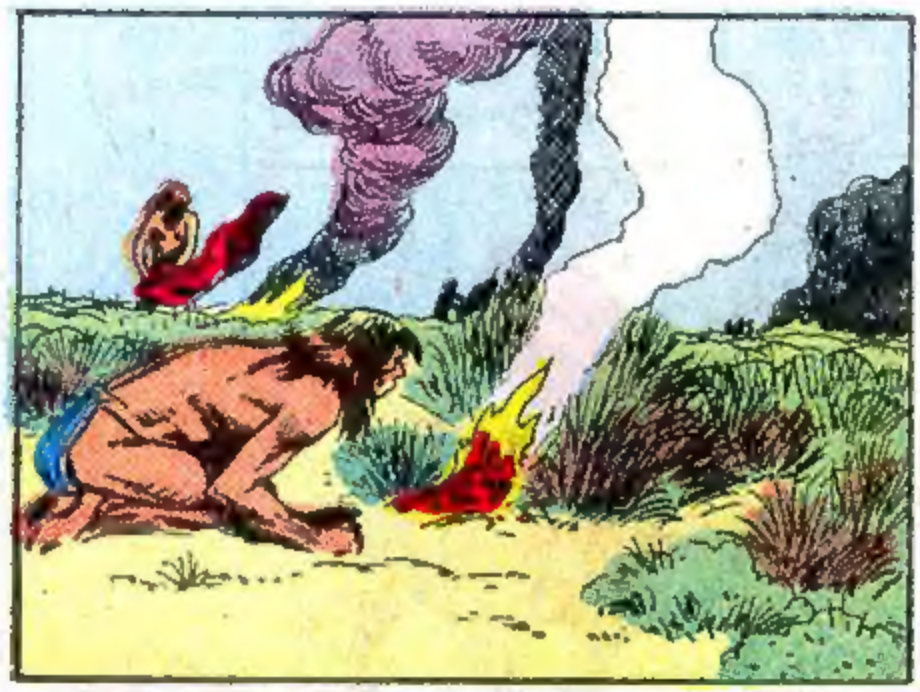
YES, INDEED... VERY VALUABLE, AND *VERY* FAST!

SMOG

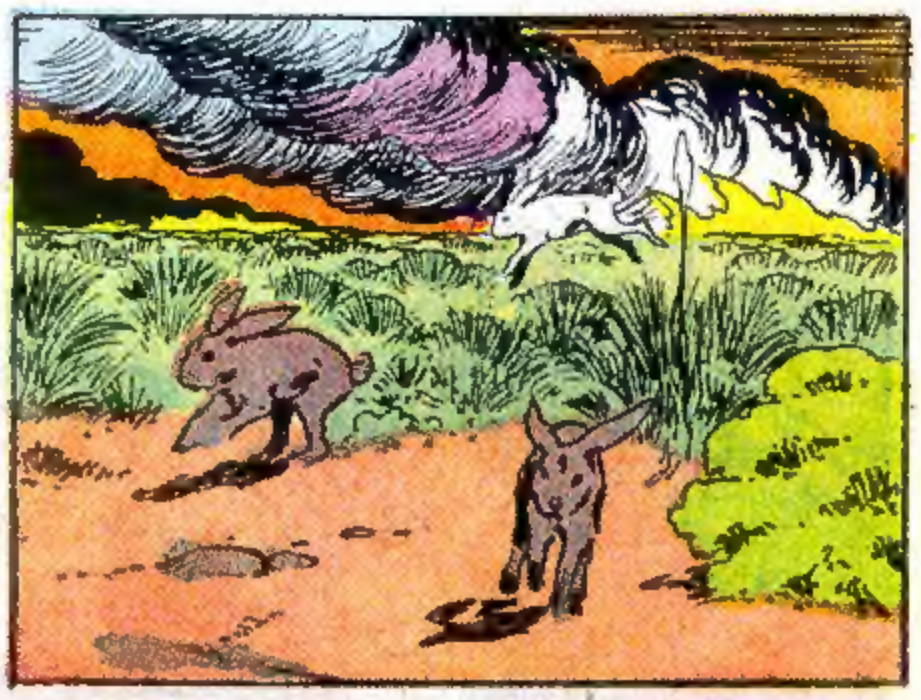
IS NOT NEW



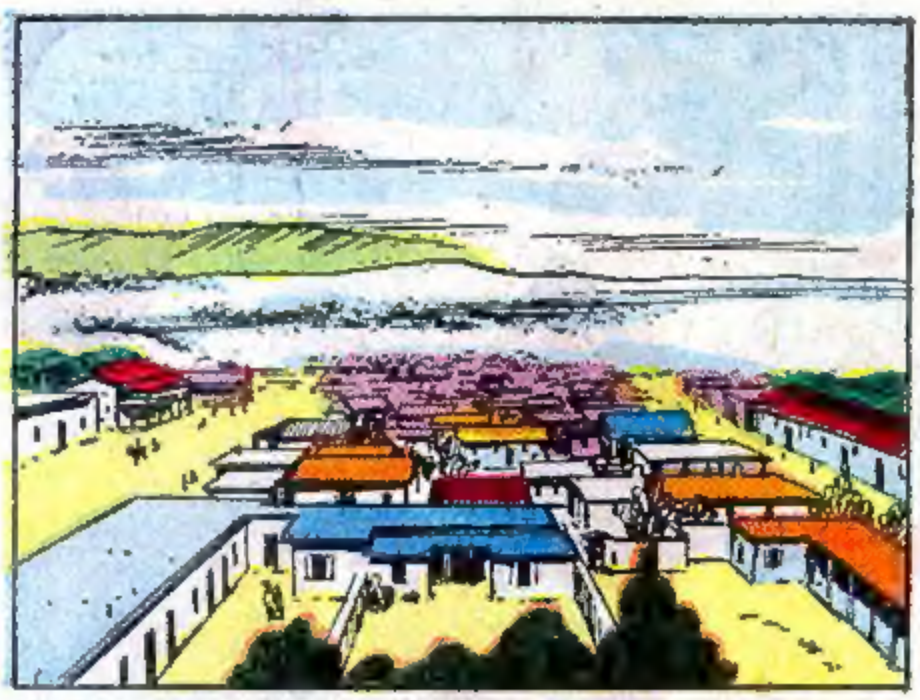
Smog is one word made up out of two—smoke and fog. It has become the subject of a great deal of talk lately—just as if it were something new. It isn't. Smog was a problem when Los Angeles was a pueblo, although not so pronounced as today.



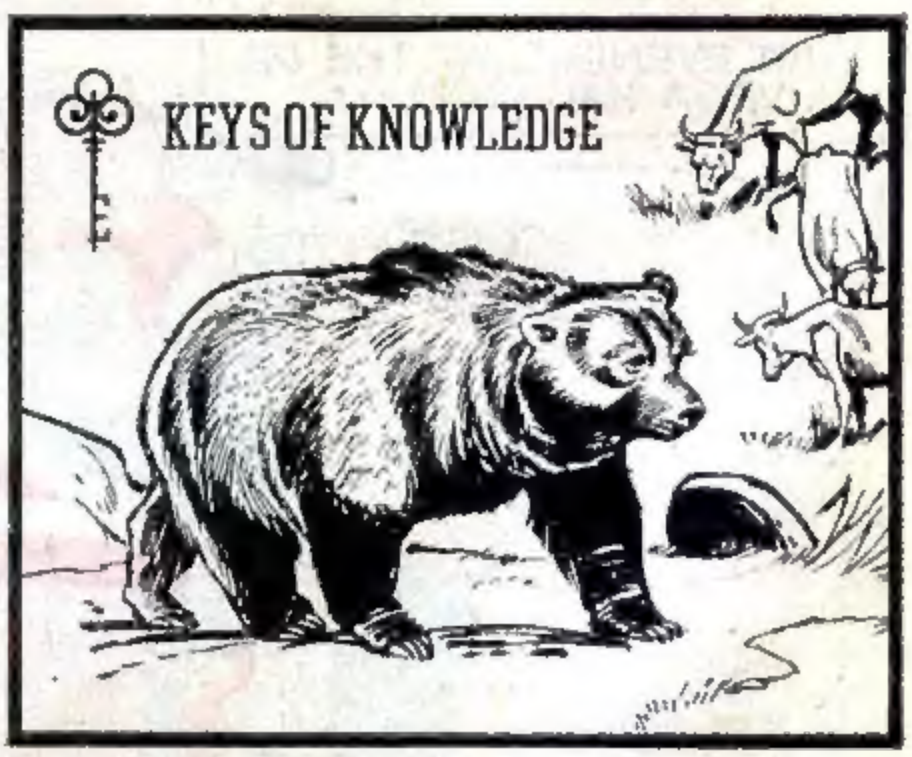
In the days of Zorro, it was the Indians who caused the smog. Half-starved, they would start a series of brush fires to smoke out the rabbits hiding in the bushes.



Forced out into the open, the rabbits became easy prey for the Indians, who feasted royally while the smoke which they had created rolled across Los Angeles.

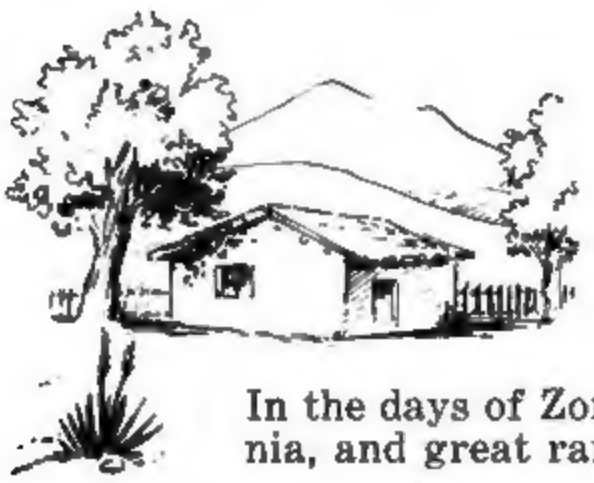


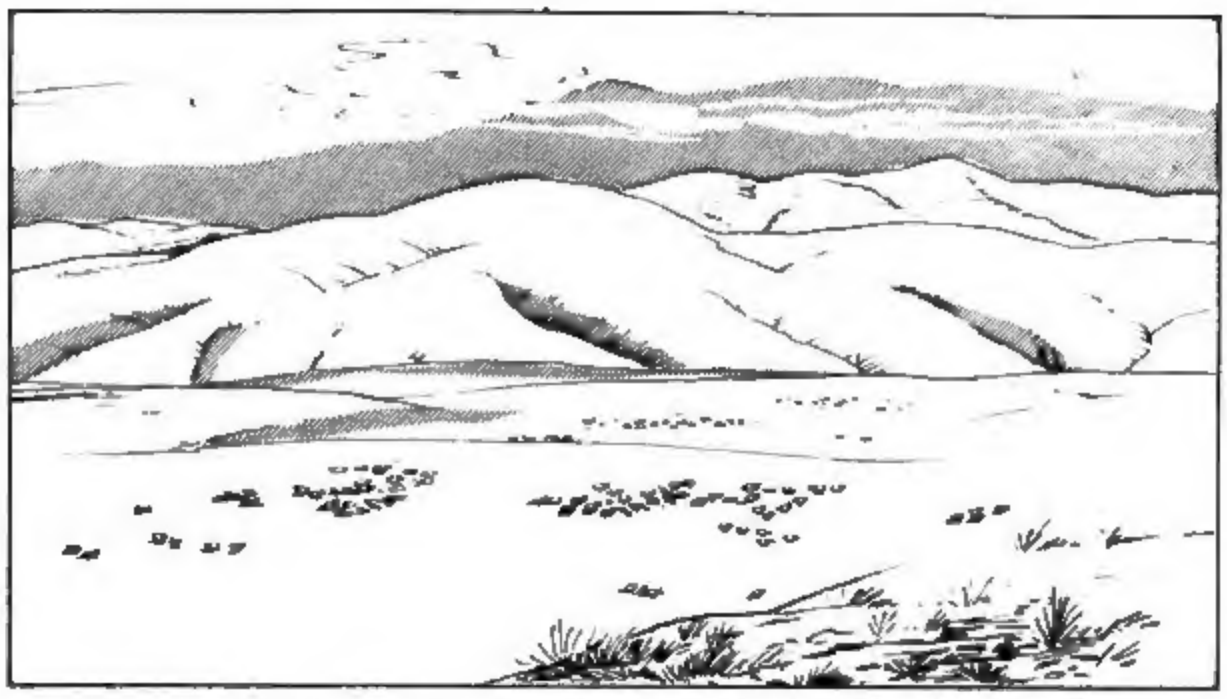
Settling into the basin formed by the surrounding mountains, the heavy pall of smoke, mingled with the fog, lay over the town for days, like a blanket. Again, history repeats itself.



Once Grizzlies were found in most of western United States and Canada. Today they are confined largely to our national parks.

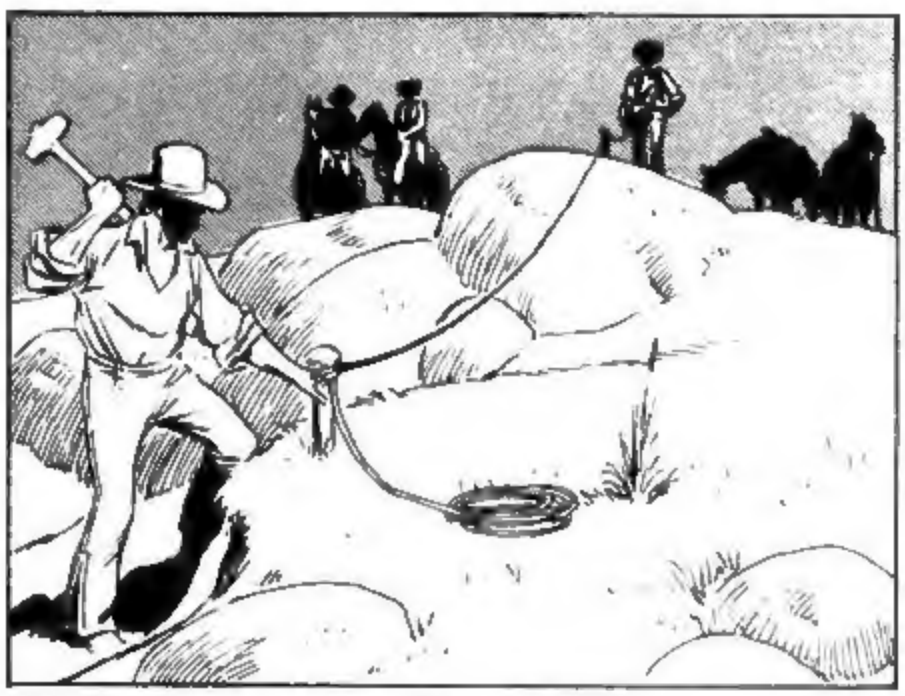
LAND GRANTED





In the days of Zorro, cattle raising was the most important industry in California, and great ranchos were established to provide grazing land for the herds.

To obtain land through a grant from the government, a man would submit a map of the acreage he wanted and promise to stock it with the required number of cattle, build a house and plant trees.



With the surrounding ranch owners as witnesses, the new grant was surveyed and the boundaries measured by a reata, or cord of rawhide, attached to stakes thrust into the ground.

Then the new owner stepped onto his land and took possession of it. By ceremoniously pulling up clumps of grass, scattering bits of earth, breaking branches of a bush, or performing some such act, he would indicate that he had assumed ownership.

Anything handy, such as an animal skull stuck atop a post, was used for boundary markers. But because such markers could easily be moved or destroyed, boundaries of many old land grants are still disputed in courts, even after a century or more.

BRAVE GARCIA

SERGEANT GARCIA -- WHY DO YOU LOOK SO GLUM ON SUCH A BEAUTIFUL DAY?

(SIGH) DON DIEGO, SINCE ZORRO HAS COME INTO MY LIFE, THERE ARE NO BEAUTIFUL DAYS!

HO! YOU MUST NOT LET HIM UPSET YOU SO, SERGEANT!

BAH! IT IS NOT ZORRO WHO UPSETS ME -- IT IS THE *COMANDANTE*, WHO CALLS ME A FOOL BECAUSE I HAVE NOT CAUGHT THE BLACK DEMON!

BUT SOME DAY I SHALL HAVE HIM -- YOU WILL SEE!

OF COURSE, GARCIA! BUT COME -- RIDE WITH ME A LITTLE! SOON THOUGHTS OF ZORRO WILL VANISH IN THE SUN AND WIND!

DON DIEGO, IF HE WOULD APPEAR RIGHT NOW, I WOULD STRIKE AT HIM LIKE SO -- AND SO -- AND SO -- UNTIL HE BEGGED FOR MERCY!

BRAVO, SERGEANT GARCIA!

(GASP!) LOOK! IT IS THE MARK OF ZORRO!

IT IS ONLY A PIECE OF FENCE, BLOWN DOWN BY THE WIND!

NO, NO -- IT IS ZORRO! IT IS HIS WARNING! HE FOLLOWS ME EVERYWHERE!

POOR GARCIA -- HE HAS A BRAVE MOUTH BUT A FAINT HEART!

zorro number 4
gold key comics. november 1966
art by warren tufts and alex toth
another fine hacsa-grundy scan